Idiomatic emphasis

A lot of adjectives can be made 'stronger' by the addition of another word or words. In most cases, these words are used as a substitute for very or *extremely* (sometimes because *very* and *extremely* do not collocate (= *work*) with the adjectives that are being used).

For example: I'm awake = I'm **wide** awake / I'm warm = I'm **as** warm **as toast**

Complete the sentences with a word that emphasises the adjective / adjective phrase in **bold**, and write your answers in the crossword grid on the next page. Some of the letters are already in the grid. Note that in some sentences more than one answer may be possible, but only one will fit in the crossword grid.

Across (⇩)

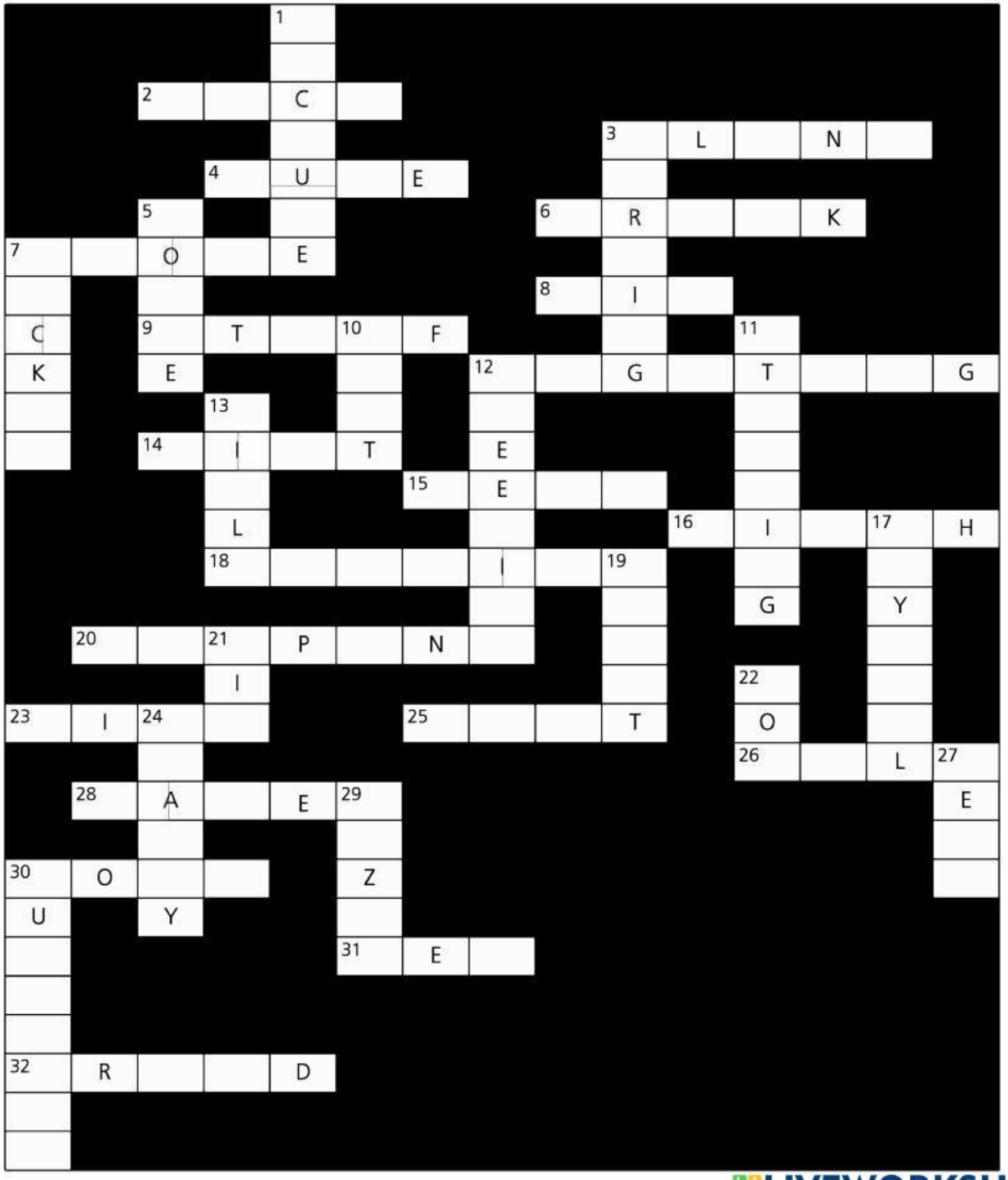
2. I don't think it's safe to play football. The ground is _____ **hard**.
3. The party began at eight o'clock, and by midnight Jim was _____ **drunk**.
4. He never listens to my advice. He's **as stubborn as a** _____!
6. He's **as thick as a** _____. I don't know how anyone can be so stupid!
7. She can't hear a word you're saying. She's _____ **deaf**.
8. I know I'm not the most handsome man in the world, but I think it's a bit unfair to say that I'm **as ugly as** _____.
9. I'm **bored** _____ sitting here. Let's go out and do something.
12. She goes to the fitness centre every day, so as you can imagine she's _____ **fit**.
14. Our holiday was _____ **cheap**: we only paid £150 for the flights and two weeks in a four-star hotel.
15. It was a lovely day and the sea was _____ **calm**, so we decided to go for a swim.
16. I can't see a thing in here. It's _____ **black**.
18. It's raining heavily. Take an umbrella or you'll get _____ **wet**.
20. Alison is _____ **mad**: someone borrowed her dictionary and didn't return it.
23. I'm not surprised the room is cold. Someone's left the door _____ **open**.
25. I can't afford to come out tonight. I'm _____ **broke** again.
26. The children have been **as good as** _____ all morning.
28. You'll freeze to death in that jacket: it's _____ **thin**.
30. Everyone at the party was drunk except for Bob, who was **stone** _____ **sober**.
31. Don't touch the plate: it's just come out of the oven and it's _____ **hot**!
32. I usually buy my cars second-hand, but this time I'm going to buy a _____ **new** one.

Down (⇦)

1. What a lovely dress. You look _____-**perfect** in it.
3. He went out in the snow wearing just a pair of shorts and a T-shirt. He must be _____ **mad**!
5. He sat in the corner **as quiet as a** _____.
7. Uurrgghhh! This cake is _____ **sweet**. I can't possibly eat it.
10. I was so tired that I went to bed at eight, and within seconds I was _____ **asleep**.
11. Mike has got loads of money. He's _____ **rich**.

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12. Can I put the heating on? It's _____ **cold** in here.
13. I've heard that joke before. It's **as old as the** _____!
17. His explanation was _____ **clear**. I understood everything perfectly.
19. There's a _____ **big** rat in the kitchen.
21. The exam wasn't difficult. It was **as easy as** _____.
22. I must go to bed. It's been a busy day and I'm _____ **tired**.
24. Mr Grant is _____ **dull.** In fact, he's the most boring man I've ever met.
27. I'm _____ **beat**. I really need to get some sleep.
29. Be careful with that knife. It's _____ **sharp**.
30. Everyone was panicking, but Sarah remained **as cool as a** _____.



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